

# News Release



**For Immediate Release**

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Contact: Winter Bonin  
Phone No.: 949-497-7647  
Email Address: crystalcv@fea.net

## Crystal Cove Opened to Public With Historic District Walking Tours

*Crystal Cove State Park* – For the first time since the State Department of Parks and Recreation acquired the Crystal Cove State Park in 1979, the public will now be given the opportunity to explore the Crystal Cove Historic District in a series of guided walking tours. The series walking tours, four on Saturdays and three on Wednesdays, will be hosted by park staff employees and will begin Saturday July 21<sup>st</sup>.

The walking tours are offered in preparation for the upcoming Historic District public workshop, the date for which has not yet been selected. The tours offer an opportunity for the public to explore the colorful Historic District, which includes 46 beachside cottages listed on the National Register of Historic Place. Built in the 1920's and 1930's, the cottages represent the vernacular character of a beachfront community of the time that has remained remarkably authentic decades later.

On July 8, 2001, the residents of the historic district moved out and State Parks began an extensive program to clean up the area and continue plans for the renovation of the unique beachfront community. It is the intention of State Parks to do an immediate stabilization of the cottages as the public planning process for future rehabilitation and public use continues. One public workshop has been held and two more are being planned. From the public process, a shared vision will emerge that represents the highest public values and uses for this unique place.

The dates for the Saturday tours are July 21, July 28, August 4 and August 11. Tours are free and will begin at 8:30 AM at the Los Trancos parking lot visitor center, located on PCH between Corona Del Mar and Laguna Beach, one half mile south of Newport Coast Drive. The dates for the Wednesday tours are August 1, August 8, and August 15, beginning at 11:00 AM, also free and starting from the Los Trancos parking lot. Comfortable walking shoes, sun protection, drinking water, and a camera are recommended.

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California State Parks on the Internet: <<http://www.parks.ca.gov>>